

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 1061

By Mr. O'Brien of Kingston, petition of Thomas J. O'Brien and Karen E. Spilka relative to reimbursements for school construction in growth communities, so-called. Education.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE COSTS OF CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW SCHOOL FOR GROWTH COMMUNITIES.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or  
2 special law to the contrary, the Department of Education shall,  
3 subject to appropriation, reimburse a municipality, which qualifies  
4 as a growth community, for the costs of construction of a new  
5 school to expand the capacity of the school district. Reimburse-  
6 ment shall be in accordance with the following formula:

7 (1) an additional twenty-five percent of reimbursement above  
8 the rate set by the General Court in that current fiscal year, for the  
9 construction costs of a new school;

10 (2) thirty-five percent for operation costs for the new school for  
11 five years;

12 (3) fifty percent of the initial start-up costs for the new school  
13 building.

14 Funds under this section shall be in addition to any other  
15 money received from the commonwealth pursuant to any other  
16 general or special law.

17 For the purposes of this section a municipality shall be deemed  
18 to be a growth community if it has experienced an increase in stu-  
19 dent population of at least one percent over the prior two years. To  
20 be eligible for funds pursuant to this section a municipality must  
21 encourage the growth of business and take steps to actively ini-

22 tiate the broadening of the business, commercial and industrial  
23 sector over a period of at least five years; provided, however, that  
24 if a municipality fails to comply with the aforesaid provisions  
25 reimbursement may be revoked.

26 The Department of Education shall establish a list of munici-  
27 palities which qualify as growth communities.

1 SECTION 2. The Department of Education shall file with the  
2 General Court any legislation necessary to implement the provi-  
3 sions of this act.